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ABSTRACT

This book offers successful teaching approaches based on college surveys and interviews with 30 professors who have received awards for teaching excellence. Chapter 1 is an overview of the challenges of college teaching. Chapters 2 and 3 consider agents for change, institutional inertia, and an historical evaluation of faculty development. Chapters 4 through 8 propose a new and invigorated system of faculty development centering around excellence in teaching. These chapters explore character as a hallmark of teaching excellence and profile the presentation styles, scholarship of teaching, and problem-solving strategies of the award-winning college teachers. A theory of teaching is proposed in chapter 9, which also offers suggestions for identifying those with the potential to become excellent teachers. Chapter 10 summarizes the current options for developing teaching assistants' teaching skills. Finally, chapter 11 suggests that a national force of distinguished teaching faculty be identified as leaders of learning communities, focusing on techniques of instructional problem-solving and faculty self-evaluation. Appendices include survey instruments and some suggested tools for professional development. (Contains approximately 175 references.) (DB)

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